ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-01-31 **FILE NAME: Project HENDON**

Report#: 029-2022 **Event: Freedom Convoy/BearHug 2.0**

Protected B - Medium Sensitivity - Particularly sensitive information requiring protection.		
☐	**Third Party Rule**	This information cannot be used, duplicated or disseminated without approval from the author.

The information in this report is current to 2022-01-31 at 1230 hours.

POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

The OPP continues to be engaged in this initiative with resources on the ground providing real-time updates and observations to the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group as events unfold.

1. The Ottawa Police Service has advised that a protestor deliberately rammed a police vehicle this morning and was refusing to exit his truck. **(RELIABLE)**

OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

Information from open sources, including the media and social media, is critical for developing all-source intelligence that provides context, and which identifies indicators of ideologies, beliefs, and attitudes that motivate subjects of interest and influence their behaviours. This component of all-source intelligence is vital for informing law enforcement in developing strategies and tactics to prevent, mitigate or respond to potential threats.

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

2. Open source research has identified an image of a male posted on social media with the caption indicating that he and his CANADA FIRST team intend to take over Parliament and possibly ram the barriers around the Parliament buildings. **(UNKNOWN)**

   Analyst Comment: *An OPP analyst has identified the male in the image as* [redacted]***.***

3. A male in a video on social media advises people not to bring their children to Ottawa because a storm was coming on 2022-01-31. **(UNKNOWN)**

4. Social media messaging indicates that protest organizers are instructing truck drivers on methods for immobilizing vehicles to be used if police attempt to break up the protest. **(UNKNOWN)**

5. Open source research has identified images of people allegedly moving wooden pallets toward Parliament Hill. **(UNKNOWN)**

6. Open source research has identified social media messaging noting a heavy police presence and suggesting that it is so that they can engage in a violent crackdown. **(UNRELIABLE)**

7. Open source research has identified social media messaging claiming that police are holding truck drivers and their families from the convoy that has not been allowed to enter the city hostage and calling for "going after" every officer involved, as well as the Chief of the Ottawa Police Service. One comment refers to police as treasonous. **(RELIABLE)**

8. Open source research has identified a "COUNTDOWN TO FREEDOM" clock on the website "freedomconvoycanada.com" with a countdown time of approximately 1 hour and 50 minutes as of 2022-01-31 at 1209 hours. The significance of this countdown is unknown. **(RELIABLE)**

9. Open source research has identified social media messaging suggesting that some convoy participants are not being reimbursed the cost of fuel. **(UNKNOWN)**

10. Open source research has identified a video featuring [redacted] in which he encourages protestors to be peaceful, but to do what they want. He reiterated his intent to remain in Ottawa and expressed displeasure with the media reporting of the protest, particularly with the CBC. **(RELIABLE)**

11. Open source research has identified another video featuring [redacted] in which he calls for people to organize in every capital city in Canada and conduct convoys every day that the protestors remain in Ottawa. He also calls for a convoy to go to Tofino, where he believes the Prime Minister is staying. **(RELIABLE)**

12. Open source research has identified a schedule for the convoy of [redacted], departing Victoria, British Columbia on 2022-01-31 and arriving in Ottawa on 2022-02-03 at 1300 hours. The schedule provides for [redacted] to remain in Ottawa until 2022-02-06, when she is scheduled to depart for Quebec at 1500 hours. Her destination in Quebec is not noted. **(UNRELIABLE)**

13. Open source information suggests that truck drivers from the United States plan to block the American side of the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor to coincide with Canadian drivers blocking the bridge in Windsor. The available information does not include a date or time. **(UNKNOWN)**

14. The GoFundMe account supporting the Freedom Convoy amounts to $9.2 million (2022-01-31 1147 hours). **(RELIABLE)**

15. The "ADOPT A TRUCKER" fundraiser had raised almost $121,000 (2022-01-31 1149 hours). **(RELIABLE)**

ASSESSMENT

Government and law enforcement assets may be at increased risk as the tone of online rhetoric has become more aggressive and extreme. The fact that one attack on police – a vehicle ramming – has already occurred potentially increases the risk that similar attacks could occur.

The available information suggests that the protest today will likely focus on government and the activities of law enforcement as police attempt to ensure public safety. Protestors may attempt to enter the Parliament Buildings or other government buildings. Further actions against law enforcement personnel, vehicles and, possibly, police stations are likely to occur. Actions against other first responders are also possible. Additionally, protestors are likely to harass or intimidate journalists. Government employees or representatives who are in the vicinity of the protest and who are not viewed as allied with the protestors' cause could also be vulnerable to harassment.

Further acts of mischief or obstruction are almost certain.

It is possible that protestors may hope to distract police or divert them away from duties associated with the protest. It is likely that some protestors will continue to engage is mass maskless shopping. If so, retail employees may also be vulnerable to harassment and intimidation, which could result in increased calls for service that could further strain police resources.

The closure of businesses in Ottawa due to the protest could lead to conflict between protestors and workers or business owners who may be economically affected by these closures. The likelihood of any such conflict may increase over time if the protestors persist remaining.

Local convoys in other locations across the country are occurring: these should be expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

Project HENDON has not identified any concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest or Operation BearHug 2.0. However, the situation remains potentially volatile. The possibility that a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a threat with little or no warning cannot be excluded.

EVENT SCHEDULE

2022-01-31

- **Burlington: Slow Roll –** Burlington Centre Mall, 777 Guelph Line (1030 hours)

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